Kuchli-Bari as a other Tin Bigha

2306. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Jansatta (Delhi) dated 2nd July, 1992 under the caption "TIN DIGHA BANGLADESH KO DEKAR SURAKSHA KHATARE ME DALI" to the effect that Kuchlibari is going to become another TIN BIGHA after handing over to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government's attention has been drawn to the said news-item. Kuchlibari is not to be leased to Bangladesh and hence the question of it becoming another Tin Bigha does not arise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Abduction/Harassment of Embassy Staff in Teheran (Iran)

2307. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to protest against the abduction and harassment meted out to the two officials of Indian embassy in 1991 in Teheran, Iran; and

(b) what steps are taken by Government to minimise such harassments to the staff of the foreign embassies of India through out the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The incidents were taken up strongly with Iranian authorities both at New Delhi and Tehran.

(b) Government take up every instance of harassment of the staff of our Mission abroad with the concerned host Government. Depending on the circumstances of the case, protests are lodged, action demanded against the persons responsible for the incident and the concerned Government reminded of its obligations for the safety and protection of foreign diplomats under accepted international conventions.

Agreement with Russian Federation

2308. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 10 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the Agreement on Friendship and Co-operation between India and the Russian federation has since been signed; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) No Sir. The agreement stands drafted and is being considered. Details will be available when the agreement is signed.

Killing of Indian Fishermen by Sri Lankan Army

2309. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the issue of Sri Lankan Army shooting and killing Indian fishermen with the Government of Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, what steps are taken to protect the Indian fishermen from the Sri Lankan Army;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the daily DINAMANI dated 12th July, 1992 relating to shooting of Indian fisherman by Sri Lankan Army; and

(d) if so, whether Government have enquired into these incidents and what are the details thereof?